



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

CERTIFIED MAIL NO: 7016 1370 000 2234 9937
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Chuck Mitten, Plant Manager
The Wine Group, LLC
17000 E. Highway 120
Ripon, CA 95366-0897

APR 19 2019

Dear Mr. Mitten:

This letter transmits a copy of the fully executed Expedited Settlement Agreement that resolves the alleged violations of Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 112(r)(7) at Franzia Winery Ripon, 17000 E. Highway 120, Ripon, CA 95366-0897. The violations were for failure to:

1. Comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 68.65(d)(2) in that there was inadequate labeling of the anhydrous ammonia equipment on Chiller 8A. The labeling was not consistent with American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) B31.3, and Compressed Gas Association (CGA) G2.1/American National Institutes Standard (ANSI) K61.1 which specify recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices (RAGAGEP) for identification of ammonia piping and equipment conditions.
2. Comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 68.81(d)(2) in that the review of documentation provided for three incidents at the facility did not indicate when the incident investigations began, therefore, it is unknown whether the investigations were initiated within 48 hours of the incidents.

The base penalty for the violation is \$2400. Following the application of the modifiers under the penalty policy, including amount of chemicals on-site and number of employees the penalty for The Wine Group, LLC is **\$2400.00**.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information about the CAA Section 112(r)(7) requirements, please feel free to contact Angie Proboszcz, of my staff at (415) 972-3077.

Sincerely,


Enrique Manzanilla, Director
Superfund Division

Enclosures

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

**** FILED ****
19APR2019 - 04:46PM
U.S.EPA - Region 09

DOCKET NO: CAA (112r)-~~09~~-2019-0037

This ESA is issued to: The Wine Group LLC
17000 E. Highway 120
Ripon, CA 95366-0897

For: Violation of Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act.
At: Franzia Winery Ripon, 17000 E. Highway 120, Ripon, CA 95366-0897

This Expedited Settlement Agreement ("ESA") is being entered into by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), Region 9, by its duly delegated official, Enrique Manzanilla, Superfund Director, and The Wine Group LLC ("Respondent") pursuant to Section 113(a)(3) and (d) of the Clean Air Act (the "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(3) and (d), and by 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b). EPA has obtained the concurrence of the U.S. Department of Justice, pursuant to Section 113(d)(1) of the Act, 2 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(1), to pursue this administrative enforcement action.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

Following its December 06, 2016 inspection, EPA alleges Respondent's failure to:

- 1) Comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 68.65(d)(2) in that there was inadequate labeling of the anhydrous ammonia equipment on Chiller 8A. The labeling was not consistent with American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) B31.3, and Compressed Gas Association (CGA) G2.1/American National Institutes Standard (ANSI) K61.1 which specify recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices (RAGAGEP) for identification of ammonia piping and equipment conditions.
- 2) Comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 68.81(d)(2) in that the review of documentation provided for three incidents at the facility did not indicate when the incident investigations began, therefore, it is unknown whether the investigations were initiated within 48 hours of the incidents.

SETTLEMENT

In consideration of Respondent's size of business, its full compliance history and previous penalties assessed, if any, its good faith effort to comply, the duration and seriousness of the violation, the economic impact of the penalty, and other factors as justice may require, the parties enter into this ESA in order to settle the violations described above for the total penalty amount of **\$2,400**.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

The Respondent by signing below admits to jurisdiction, neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained above, and consents to the assessment of the penalty as stated above. Respondent waives its rights to a hearing afforded by Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the Act, 42 U.S.C §7413(d)(2)(A), and to appeal this ESA. Each party to this action shall bear its own attorney's fees and costs, if any. Respondent also certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the Respondent has corrected the violations listed above and has sent an **Online Payment through the Department of Treasury: WWW.PAY.GOV** (Enter SFO 1.1 in search field. Open form and complete required fields) **or alternatively has sent a cashier's check or certified check** (payable to the

Treasurer, United States of America) in the amount of \$2,400 in payment of the full penalty amount to the following address:

US Environmental Protection Agency
Fines and Penalties
Cincinnati Finance Center
PO Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

The check or online payment should reference Respondent's name and a copy of this ESA must be included with the check/online payment going to the EPA Cincinnati Finance Center. This original ESA and a copy of the check or online receipt must also be sent by certified mail to:

Angie Proboszcz (SFD-9-3)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

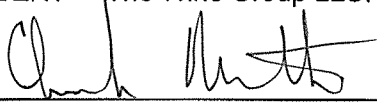
Upon Respondent's submission of the signed original ESA, EPA will take no further civil penalty action against Respondent for the violations of the Act alleged above. This ESA shall not be construed as a covenant not to sue, a release, waiver, or limitation of any rights, remedies, powers, or authorities, civil or criminal that EPA has under the Act or any other statutory, regulatory, or common law enforcement authority of the United States, except as stated above.

If the signed original ESA with an attached copy of the check is not returned to the EPA Region 9 office at the above address in correct form by the Respondent within 30 days of the date of Respondent's receipt of the proposed ESA and EPA has not granted an extension of its offer to settle, the ESA is withdrawn, without prejudice to EPA's ability to file an enforcement action for the violations identified herein.

This ESA is binding on the parties signing below.

This ESA is effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

FOR RESPONDENT – The Wine Group LLC.

Signature: 

Date: 4/8/19

Name (print): Chuck Mitten

Title (print): Plant Manager

FOR COMPLAINANT:

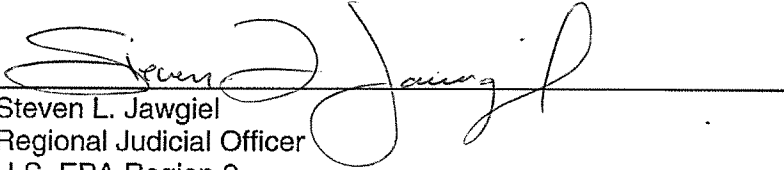
Enrique Manzanilla, Director
Superfund Division
U.S. EPA Region 9



Date: 4/16/2019

It is hereby ORDERED that this ESA be entered and Respondent pays the above penalty.

Steven L. Jawgiel
Regional Judicial Officer
U.S. EPA Region 9



Date: 04/18/19

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a FINAL ORDER for the Consent Agreement and Final Order in the matter of Ratto Bros., Inc. [Docket Number CAA(112R)-09-2019-0037], has been signed by the Regional Judicial Officer and has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

The Final Order has been served on Respondent, and Counsel for EPA, as indicated below:

BY FIRST CLASS MAIL:

(With Return Receipt)

Respondent -

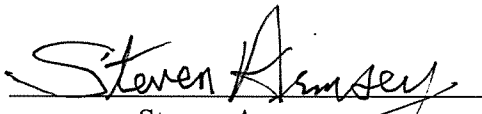
Mr. Chuck Mitten
Plant Manager
The Wine Group, LLC
17000 E. Highway 120
Ripon, CA 95366-0897

HAND DELIVERED:

Complainant -
(By Counsel)

Andrew Helmlinger
Office of Regional Counsel
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA. 94105

Dated at San Francisco, CA, April 19, 2019;


Steven Armsey
Regional Hearing Clerk
EPA, Region 9